



09 April 2021

Celebrating the life of HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, KG, KT

An inspirational and committed champion of young people worldwide

It is with great sadness that The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award acknowledges the death of our Founder HRH The Duke of Edinburgh KG, KT.

Sixty-five years ago, His Royal Highness established The Duke of Edinburgh's Award in the UK. Since then, it has been delivered in more than 130 countries and territories, equipping and empowering millions of young people to build the skills, confidence and resilience they need to support their communities and be ready for the world.

John May, Secretary General of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation says:

'The International Award family mourns the loss of our inspirational Founder. Prince Philip's belief in the infinite potential of young people, coupled with his championing of non-formal education and learning, positioned him as a leader and thinker of truly global stature.

Through the personal leadership and involvement of Prince Philip, the Award that bears his name has transformed the lives of millions of young people since it started in 1956 and has impacted countless more in local communities. As young people face exceptional challenge and change in the wake of the current pandemic, this "do-it-yourself growing-up kit", as he described it, is even more relevant today than ever.

His Royal Highness's passion for, and commitment to, the work of the Award and the development of young people continued until the last. His determination, energy and enthusiasm will be greatly missed.'

From its founding, The Duke has been committed to ensuring the Award is accessible to young people of all backgrounds. Around the world, the Award has provided opportunities to at risk and

marginalised young individuals, including post-conflict communities (Cote d'Ivoire; Uganda); disability groups (Indonesia); indigenous peoples (Belize, Australia) and young offenders (Ghana, South Africa).

Every year, more than a million young people participate in the Award worldwide, supported by around 200,000 volunteers. Whilst it is known by a number of different names globally – from The President's Award in South Africa, to The International Award for Young People in India, the framework remains the same.

May continues:

'As we mark the extraordinary life of The Duke of Edinburgh, we are resolutely committed to ensuring His Royal Highness's vision for the Award continues to grow and reach even more young people worldwide in the years to come, under the Chairmanship of HRH The Earl of Wessex.'

At this time, the International Award family encourages anyone who would like to share a message of condolence, or memories of the Award and what it means to them to visit www.facebook.com/intaward.

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To find out more about the Award, please visit www.intaward.org.

For more information on the impact of the Award, including recent social value analysis, please visit www.intaward.org/impact/social-value.

For more information, interviews or Award content:

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Notes to Editors:

- The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is a global, non-formal education framework which challenges young people to develop new skills, get physically active, learn about teamwork and leadership through adventurous journey and volunteer within their

community.

- It was founded by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh in 1956, in conjunction with German educationalist Kurt Hahn.
- It is known by a range of different names around the world – including the DofE in the UK, The President's Award in South Africa, The International Award for Young People in India and Mednarodno priznanje za mlade (MEPI) in Slovenia.
- There are currently more than a million young people completing their own unique Award programme, via hundreds of thousands of youth-focused partners and operators, including schools, youth organisations, examination boards and youth offender institutions.
- The Award is delivered around the world by schools, colleges, universities, employers, social clubs, uniformed and non-uniformed youth organisations, young offenders' institutions, religious organisations, sports clubs, and a whole host of other civic organisations.
- From running as an established programme in a blind boys' academy in India, to the introduction into youth organisations in Israel; the Award's framework can support and thrive in a multitude of different environments.
- Since its launch over 60 years ago, millions of young people have participated and received Awards, with millions more benefitting from its impact in communities around the world.
- The Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex is Chairman of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation.
- National and international case studies, imagery and additional video content are available on request.